

MARVEL

LEGACY

TANGLED WEBS PART **1** OF **1**

161



**COSTA
GARRÓN
ALMARA
ARCINIEGA**

VENOM



YEARS AGO, PETER PARKER (A.K.A. THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN) ACCIDENTALLY BONDED WITH AN ALIEN BEING CALLED A SYMBIOTE. WHEN PETER REALIZED THE COSTUME WAS ACTUALLY AN AGGRESSIVE LIVING ORGANISM, HE REJECTED IT. BUT DURING THEIR TIME TOGETHER, THE SYMBIOTE HAD ACCESS TO SPIDER-MAN'S GENETIC CODE AND NOW GRANTS WHOMEVER IT BONDS WITH SKILLS SIMILAR TO HIS: WALL-CRAWLING, THE POWER TO GENERATE BIOORGANIC WEBBING AND UNIQUE ABILITIES TO SHAPE-SHIFT AND BECOME INVISIBLE, TURNING THEM INTO...

VENOM



ALTHOUGH EDDIE BROCK AND THE VENOM SYMBIOTE HAVE BEEN REUNITED, THE SYMBIOTE'S PREVIOUS BOND WITH A DANGEROUS CRIMINAL NAMED LEE PRICE HAS LEFT IT EMOTIONALLY UNSTABLE.

WHILE THE SYMBIOTE STILL DESIRES TO BE A HERO, ITS UNPREDICTABILITY HAS MADE LIFE VERY DIFFICULT FOR EDDIE, WHO HAS STRUGGLED TO FIND WORK AS A REPORTER FOR THE *FACT SHEET* AND FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVE VENOM'S RENEWED HEROISM TO THE PUBLIC.

WITH NOWHERE ELSE TO GO, EDDIE'S BEEN FORCED TO TURN TO LIZ ALLAN AND ALCHEMAX FOR A SPECIAL SERUM TO KEEP THE SYMBIOTE'S MORE VIOLENT TENDENCIES AT BAY...

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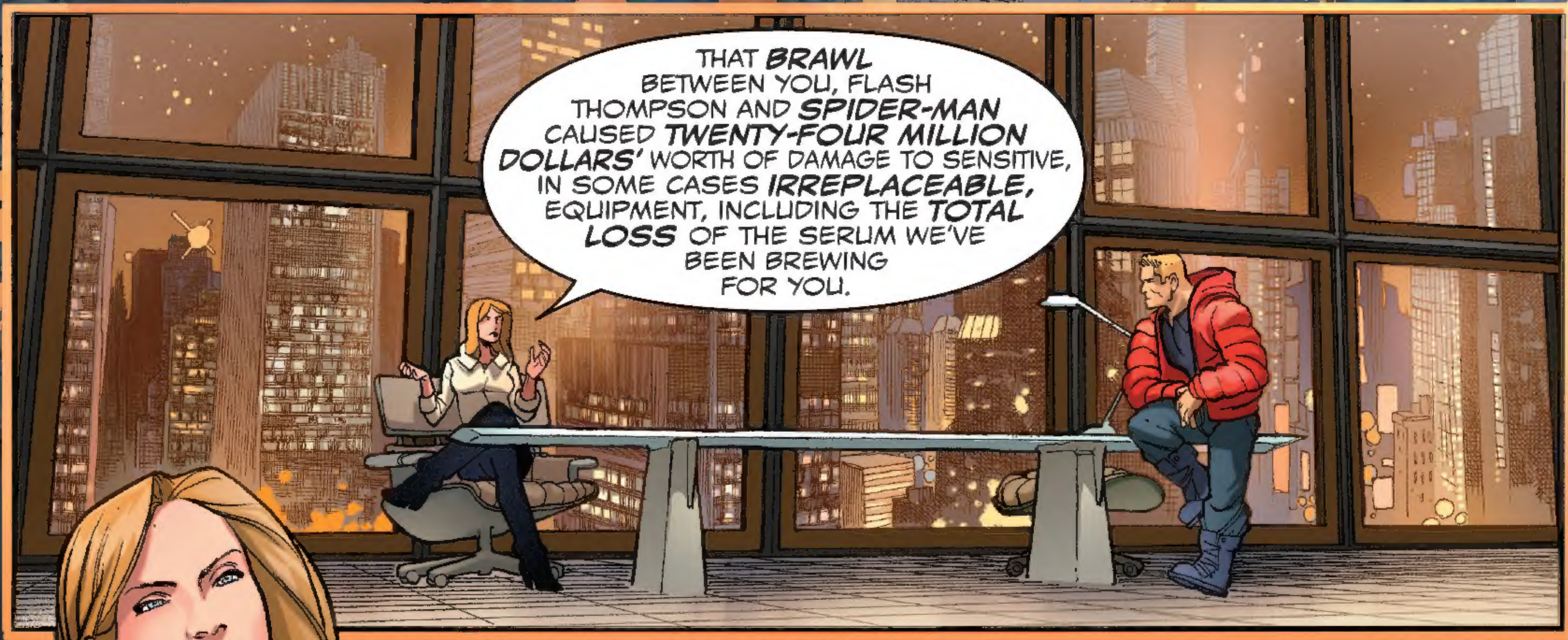
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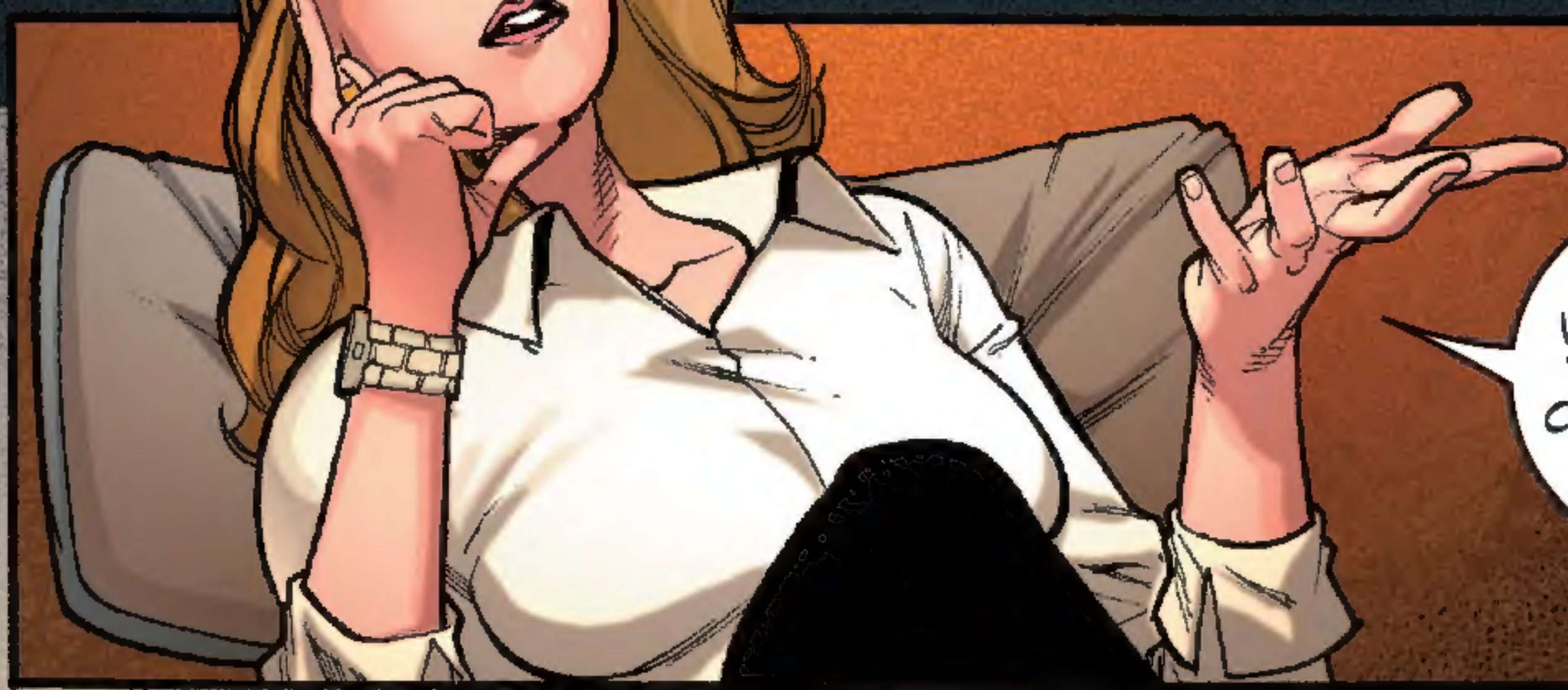
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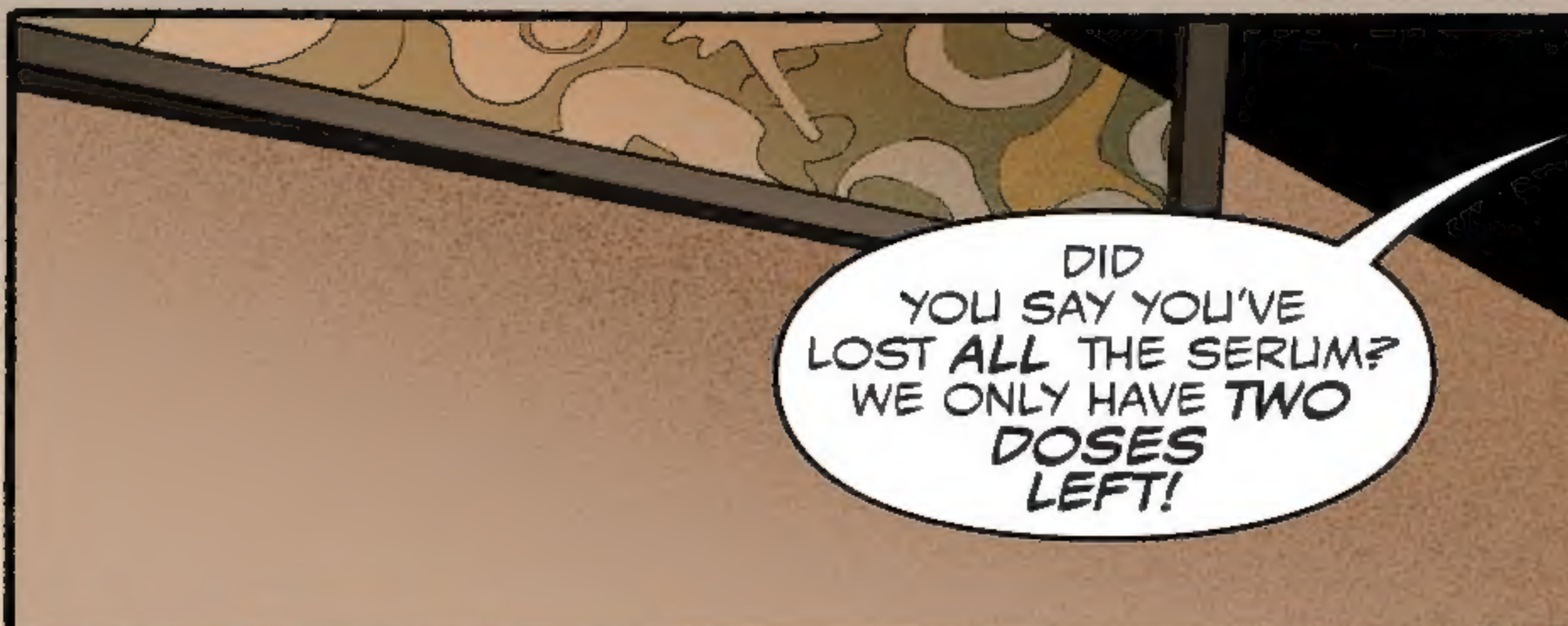
WELL,
CONGRATULATIONS,
BROCK.



THAT **BRAWL**
BETWEEN YOU, FLASH
THOMPSON AND **SPIDER-MAN**
CAUSED **TWENTY-FOUR MILLION**
DOLLARS' WORTH OF DAMAGE TO SENSITIVE,
IN SOME CASES **IRREPLACEABLE**,
EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING THE **TOTAL**
LOSS OF THE SERUM WE'VE
BEEN BREWING
FOR YOU.



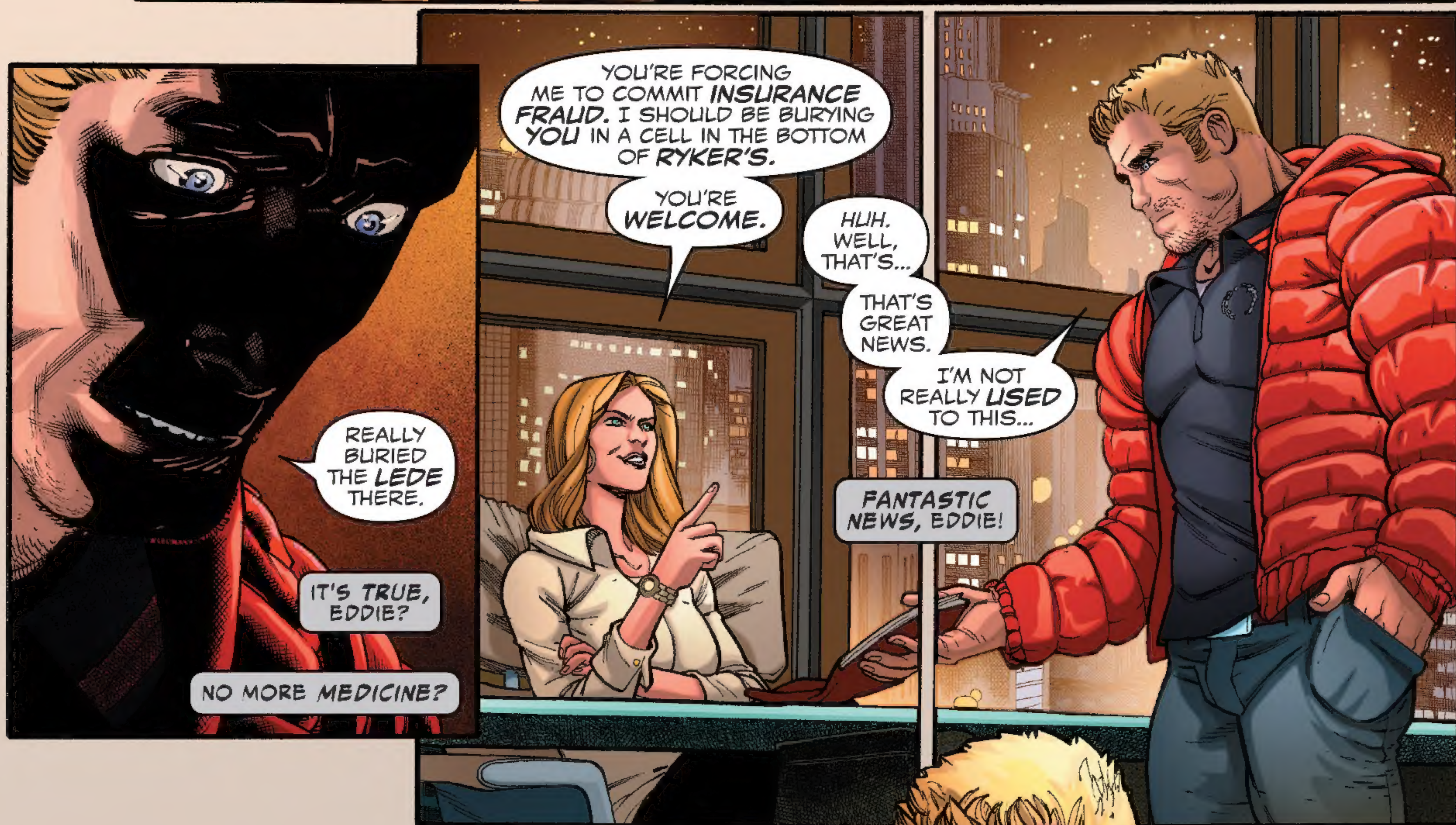
I'VE FILED
AN INSURANCE CLAIM
OF COURSE, BUT SINCE
WE CAN'T **ADMIT** TO MAKING
YOUR **SERUM**, I'VE GOT TO
COMMIT ALL KINDS OF **EXTRA**
FELONIES JUST TO COVER
UP MY ORIGINAL
FELONIES.



DID
YOU SAY YOU'VE
LOST **ALL** THE SERUM?
WE ONLY HAVE **TWO**
DOSES
LEFT!



SEE FOR YOURSELF. DR. STEVE
SAYS YOUR SYMBIOTE IS
CURED.





CURED!



WHY DID YOU ASK
THAT WOMAN TO
EAT, EDDIE?

JUST
CELEBRATING
THE GOOD
NEWS.



LAST TIME WE
GOT GOOD NEWS
YOU ATE WITH
MR. NOODLES.
STEAK.

WE
ALWAYS EAT
TOGETHER,
DEAR.



DON'T LIKE THAT
WOMAN, EDDIE!
SHE'S MEAN.

THEN IT'S
A GOOD THING
SHE SAID NO,
ISN'T IT?

BESIDES, I SEE
ANOTHER WAY WE CAN
CELEBRATE OUR NEW
BEGINNING.







FUNNY, I WAS THINKING THAT **EXACT** THING.

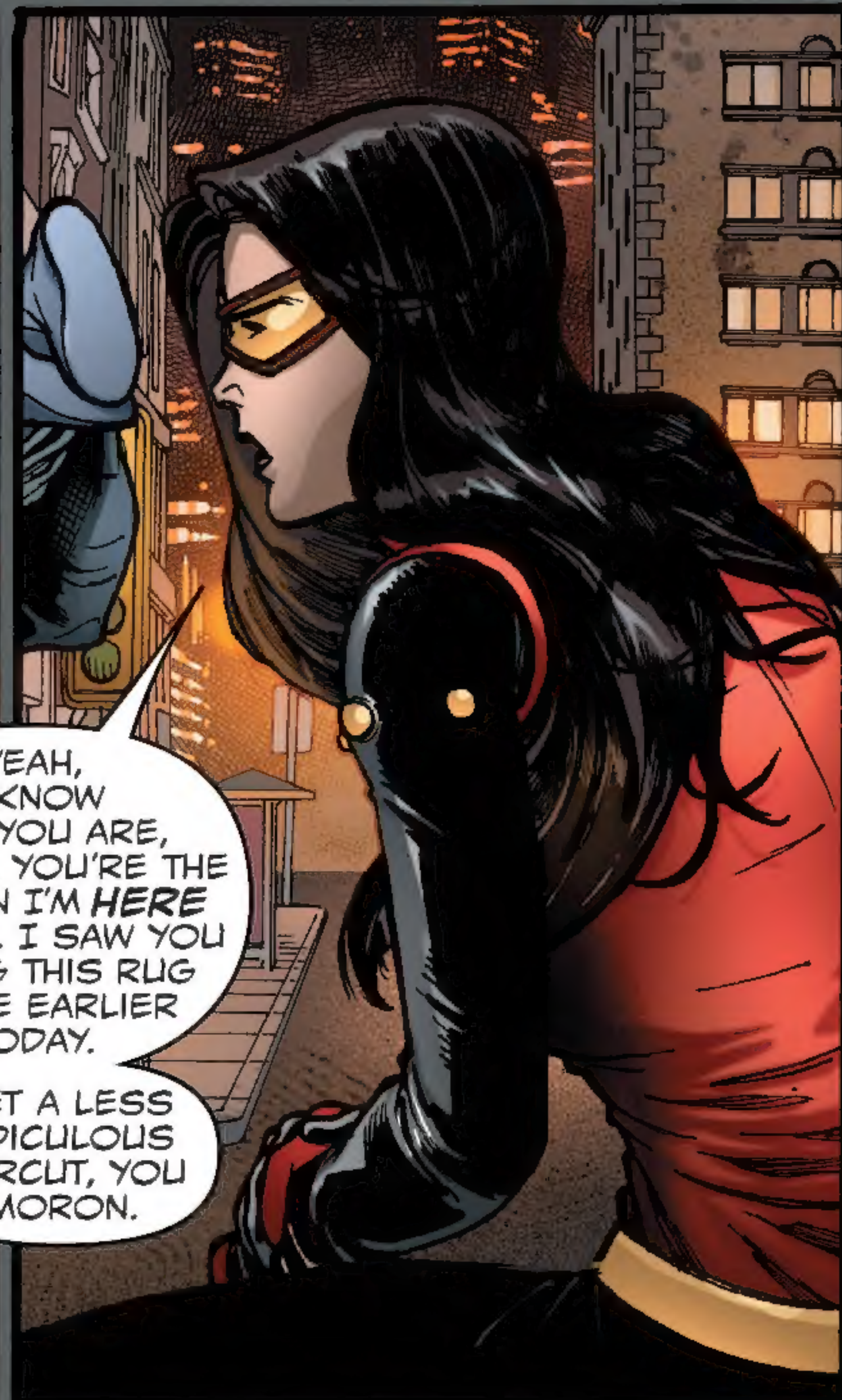
YOU'RE THE **SPIDER-WOMAN**. WE'VE HEARD OF YOU.



OH, NEAT. AND YOU'RE **VENOM**. I'VE HEARD OF YOU, TOO.



AND YOU'VE HEARD OF ME **TOO**, RIGHT? WE MET THAT ONE TIME? WHEN I WAS STEALING THAT **TANK**?



YEAH, I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, **NORTON**. YOU'RE THE REASON I'M **HERE** TONIGHT. I SAW YOU CASING THIS **RUG** STORE EARLIER TODAY.

GET A LESS **RIDICULOUS** HAIRCUT, YOU **MORON**.



ANYWAY, THANKS FOR WRAPPING HIM UP, BIG GUY. MAKES IT EASIER TO HANDLE JUST ONE OF YOU.



WHILE WE'RE STILL SPEAKING CALMLY, YOU SHOULD KNOW WE'VE **CHANGED**. WE AREN'T **BITING** OR **MAIMING** THIS MAN.

WE ARE ON THE SAME SIDE AS YOU.

YOU ARE PRETTY CALM. YOU HAVEN'T THREATENED TO EAT ANYONE'S **BRAIN** THIS WHOLE TIME!



BAM

OH, WELL.



OW! HEY! COME ON!



STOP!
YOU'RE MAKING
A MISTAKE!

WE JUST
FOUGHT ALONGSIDE
SPIDER-MAN!
DIDN'T HE TELL
YOU?

DO YOU THINK MY
BEING SPIDER-WOMAN
MAKES ME SPIDER-MAN'S WIFE?
I HAVEN'T TALKED TO HIM
IN WEEKS.

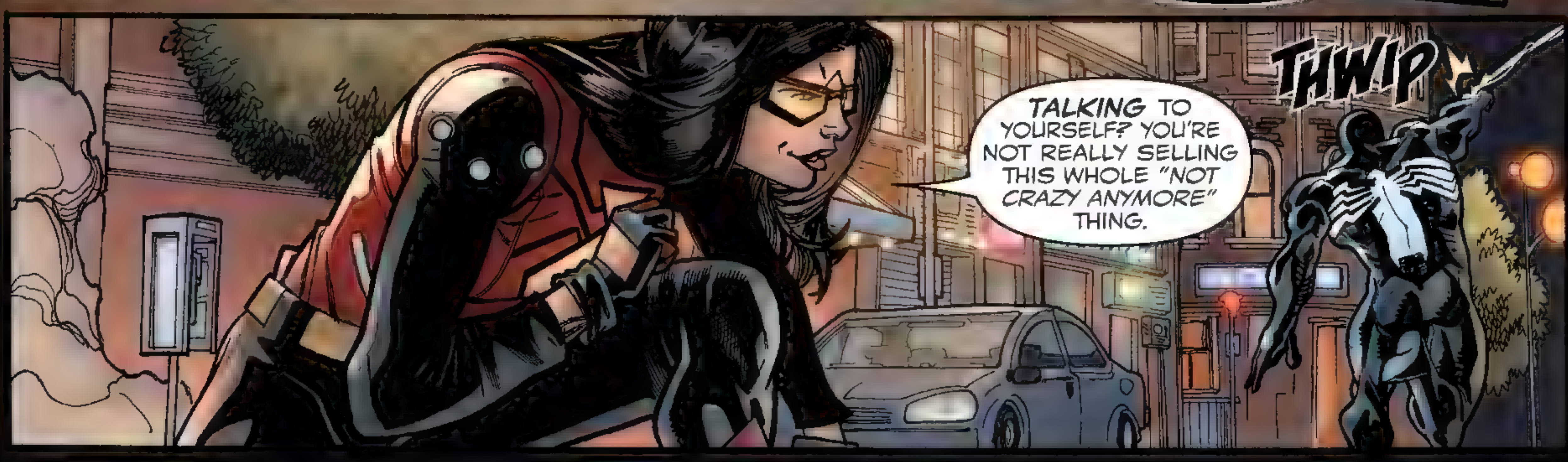


BUT IN THOSE
WEEKS HAVE YOU
UN-KILLED ALL THOSE
PAST VICTIMS? NO?
OKAY, THEN.

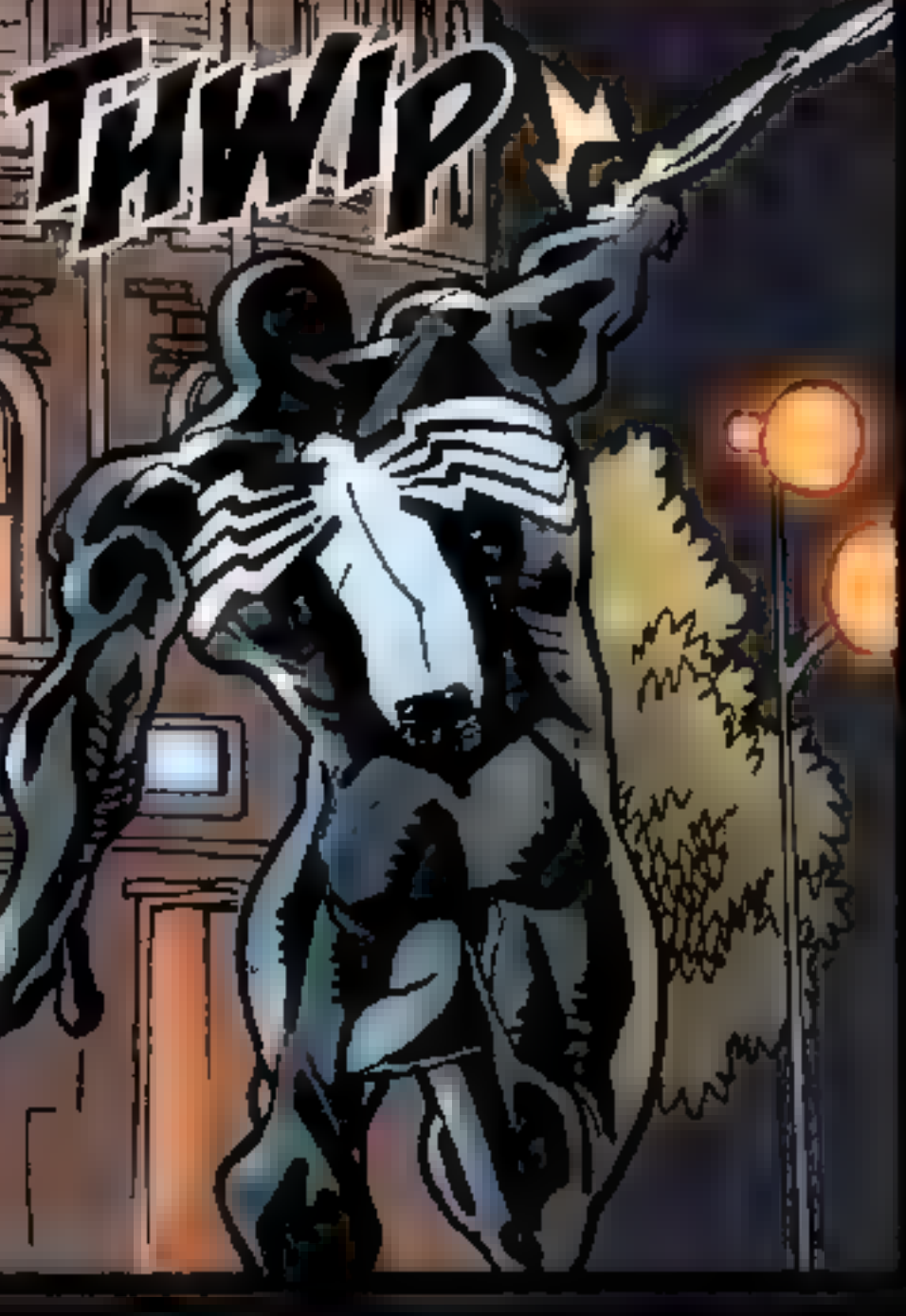
ATTACKING
US! MUST
FIGHT!



NO! WE
MUSTN'T. FIGHT
THIS WOMAN. IT WILL
ONLY MAKE THINGS
WORSE.



TALKING TO
YOURSELF? YOU'RE
NOT REALLY SELLING
THIS WHOLE "NOT
CRAZY ANYMORE"
THING.

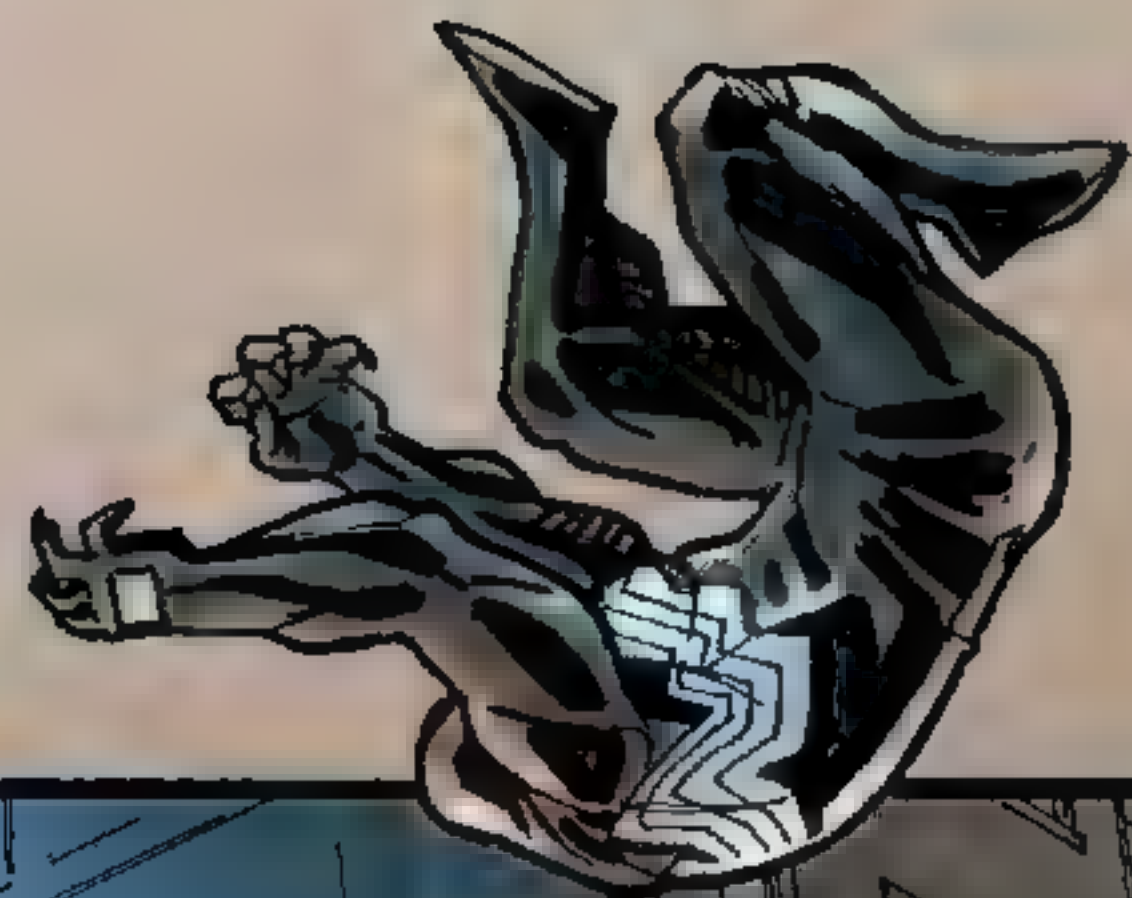




KA-ZAT

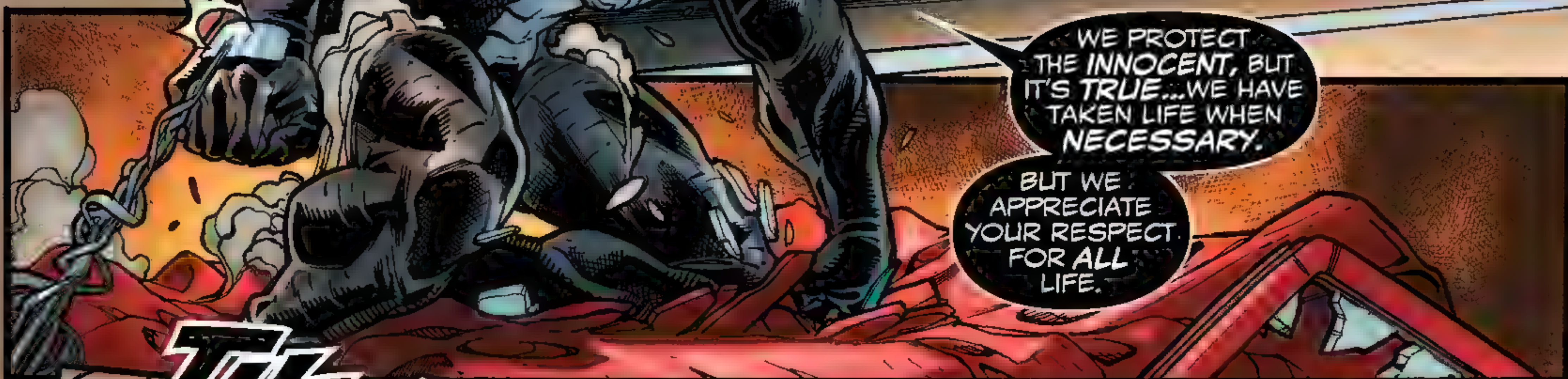


SHE WON'T LET US RUN!



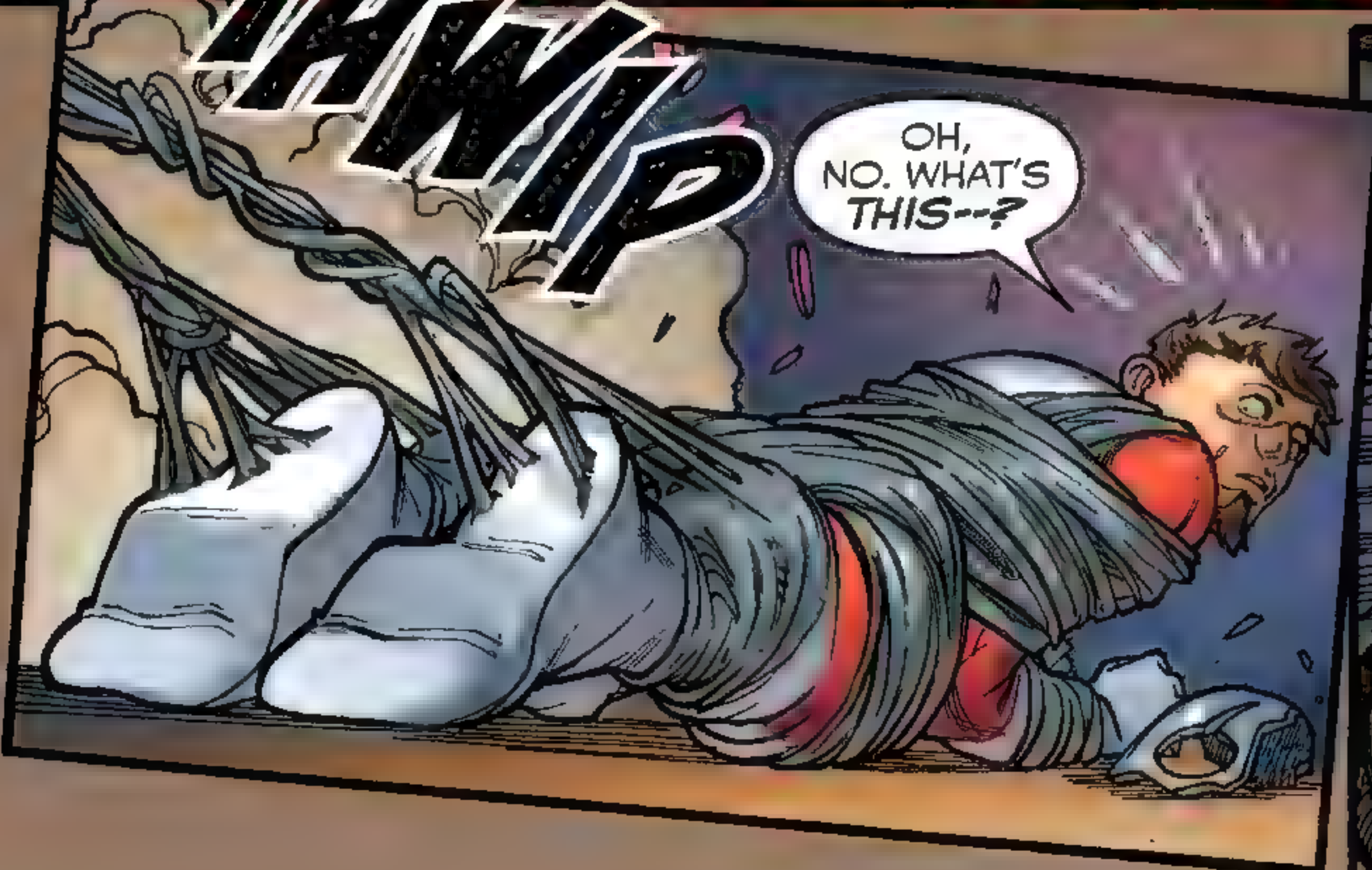
NO!

WE PROTECT THE INNOCENT, BUT IT'S TRUE...WE HAVE TAKEN LIFE WHEN NECESSARY.
BUT WE APPRECIATE YOUR RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE.



THWIP

OH, NO. WHAT'S THIS--?



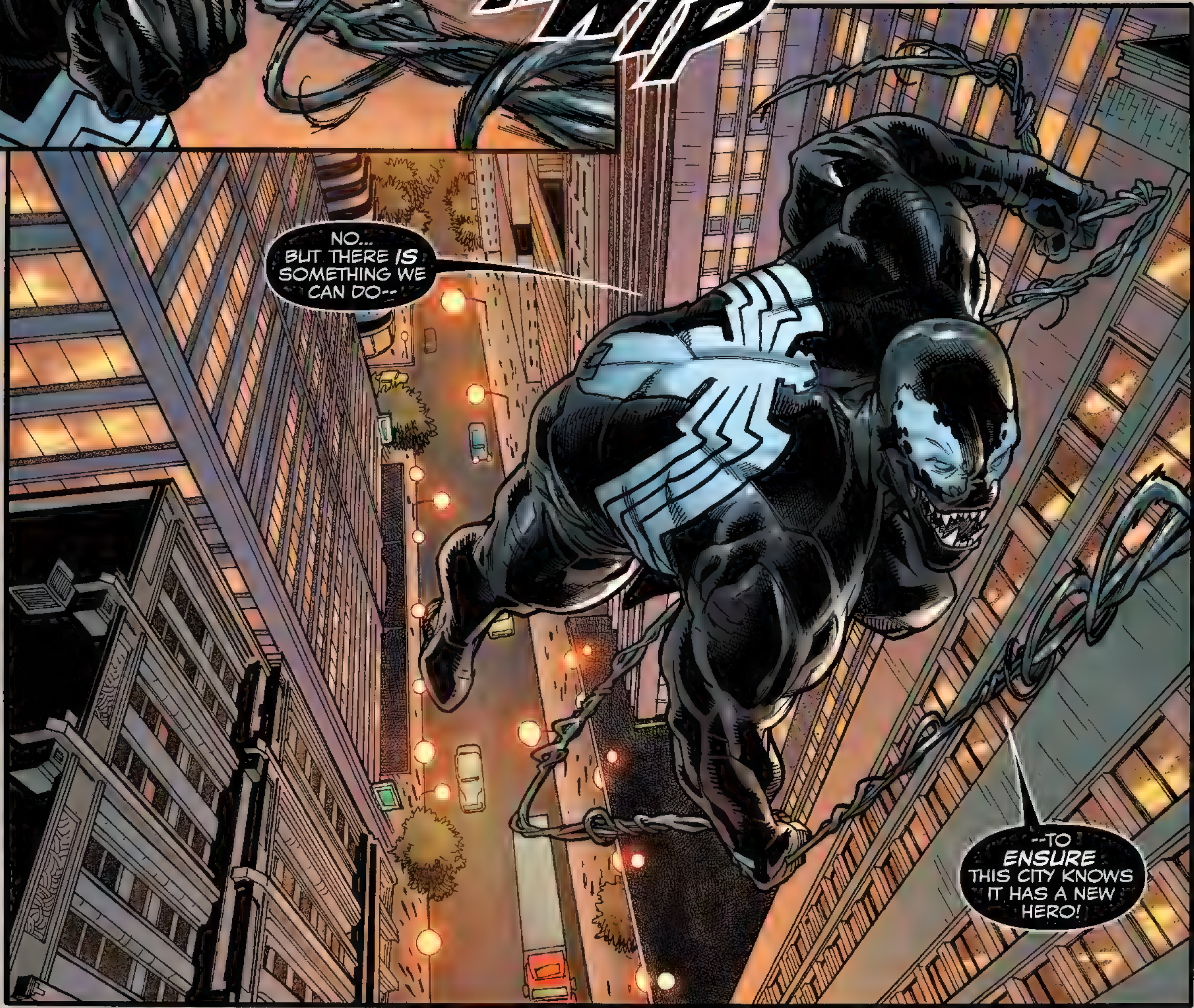
AAAAHHHHH!



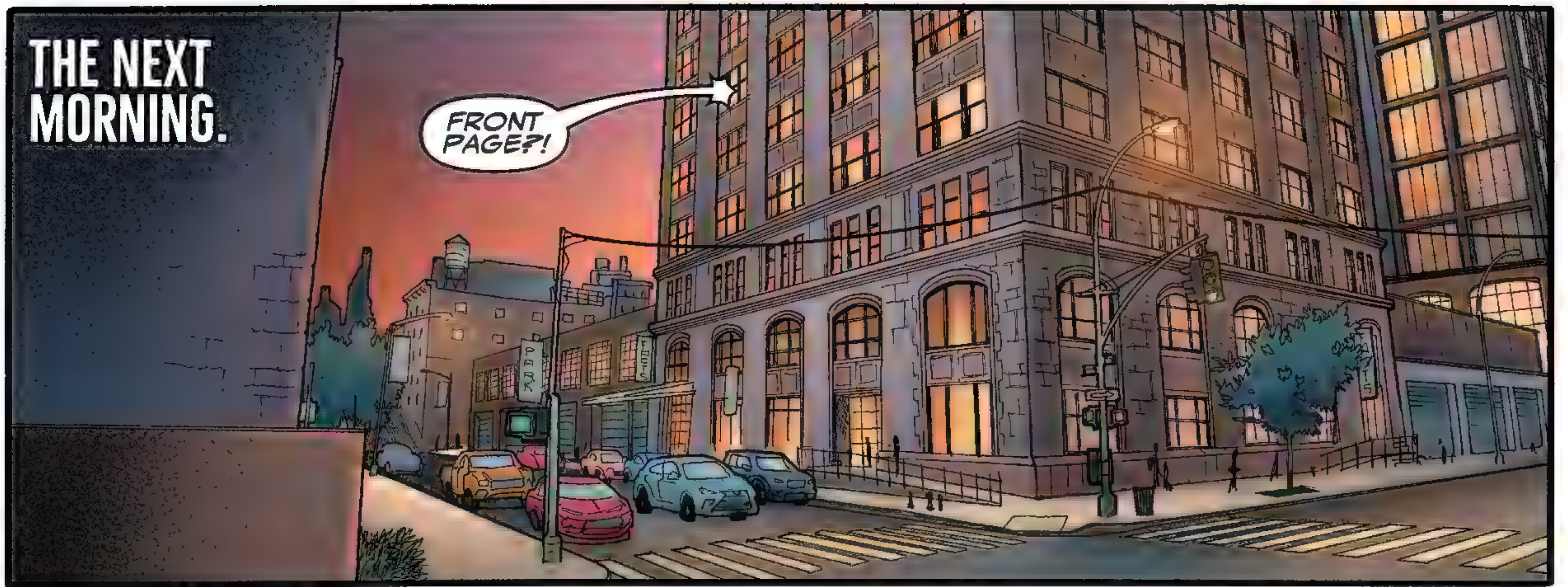
WON'T EVEN GET
CREDIT FOR CATCHING
THE BAD GUY!

THWIP

NO...
BUT THERE IS
SOMETHING WE
CAN DO--

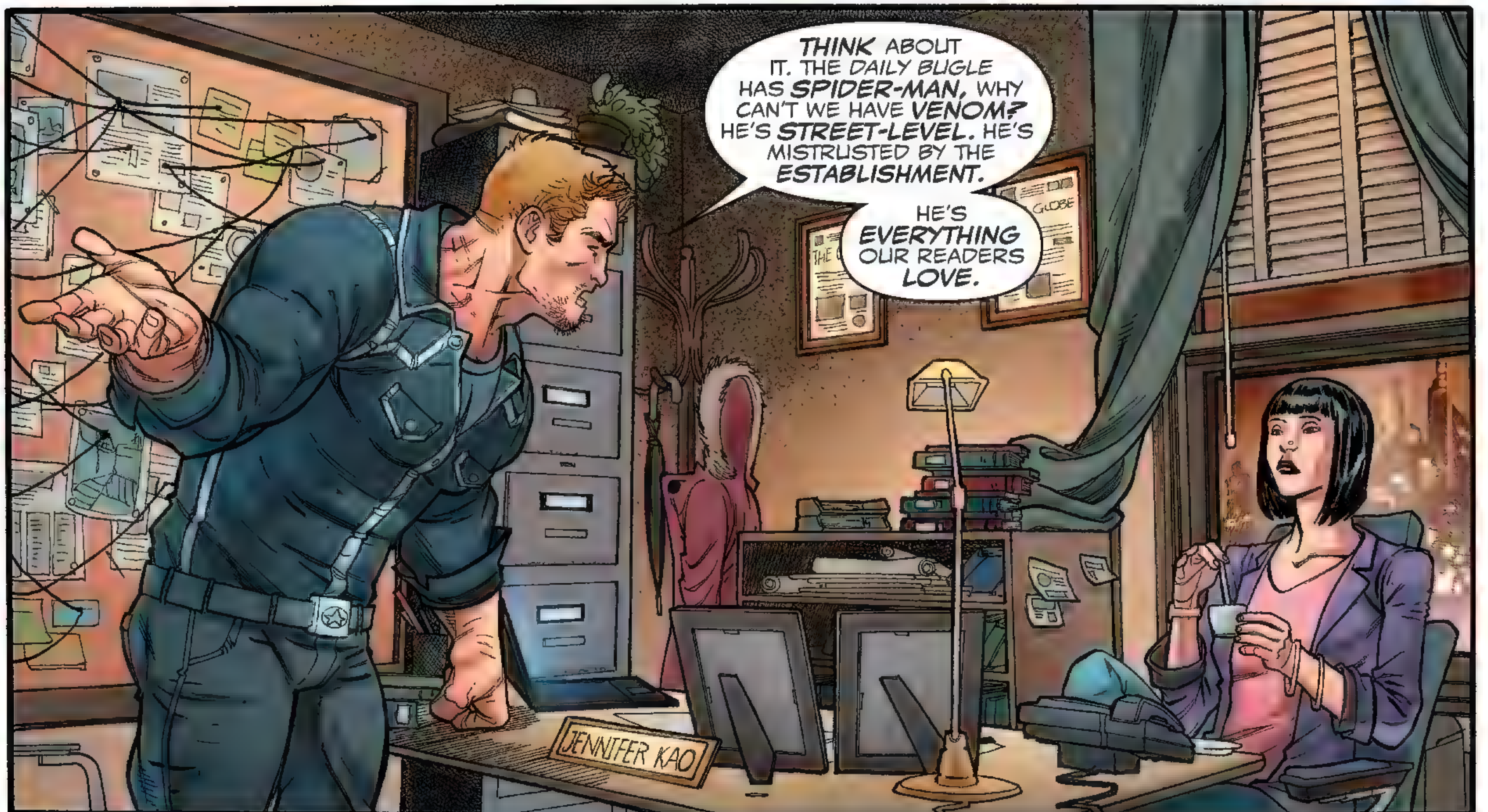


--TO
ENSURE
THIS CITY KNOWS
IT HAS A NEW
HERO!



THE NEXT MORNING.

FRONT PAGE?!



THINK ABOUT IT. THE DAILY BUGLE HAS **SPIDER-MAN**, WHY CAN'T WE HAVE **VENOM**? HE'S **STREET-LEVEL**. HE'S MISTRUSTED BY THE ESTABLISHMENT.

HE'S **EVERYTHING** OUR READERS LOVE.



OUR READERS DON'T COME TO US OUT OF **LOVE**, MR. SYM.

THEY COME FOR A **HUNGER** FOR THE **TRUTH**. AND, FRANKLY, THEY COME OUT OF **FEAR**.



AND THAT'S WHY **VENOM** IS THEIR **CHAMPION**! HE'S AN **UNDERDOG**! HE'S BEING **HUNTED** BY THE VERY PEOPLE OUR READERS KNOW THEY CAN'T **TRUST**.

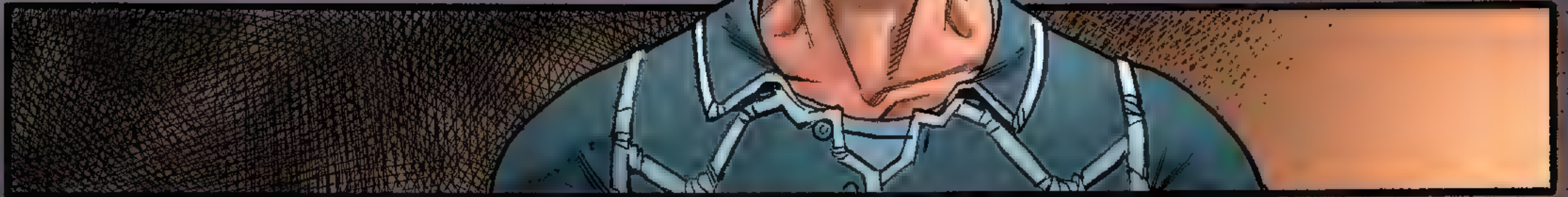
HE'S THEIR **CHAMPION**!



HE'S BEING
HUNTED BECAUSE
HE'S A **CANNIBALISTIC
MONSTER** THAT WAS
PROBABLY THE CREATION
OF SOME **GOVERNMENT
EXPERIMENT** GONE
WRONG.

IF YOU'RE NOT
GOING TO WRITE ME **THAT**
STORY, MAYBE BRING ME
ANOTHER ONE LIKE YOUR
PIECE ABOUT THE **SKRULLS**
INFILTRATING THE **YANKEES**
TO HUMILIATE **NEW
YORK**.

THAT
WAS GOOD
STUFF.



FACTS CHANNEL



HM.

DON'T LIKE THAT WOMAN
EITHER, EDDIE.

SHE HATES
US.

SHE
DOESN'T ~~W~~NGH-
HATE US.

SHE HATES
ME.

JENN KAO IS
A **SMART WOMAN**.
SHE'S RESPONSIBLE FOR
HER PAPER STAYING IN CIRCULATION,
FOR THE **JOBS** OF THE PEOPLE
THERE--INCLUDING **OUR** JOB--
AND SHE MAKES DECISIONS
TO **PROTECT** THEM.

WE WILL
EAT, AND THEN WE
WILL THINK OF A WAY TO
CONVINCE HER THAT PORTRAYING
VENOM AS A **HERO** WILL SELL
MORE PAPERS THAN
MAKING HIM A
MONSTER.

**KNOK
KNOK**

THERE'S
DINNER
NOW.

THAT
WAS F--







CAN'T TAKE US TO JAIL!

HEY, NO!

STOP!

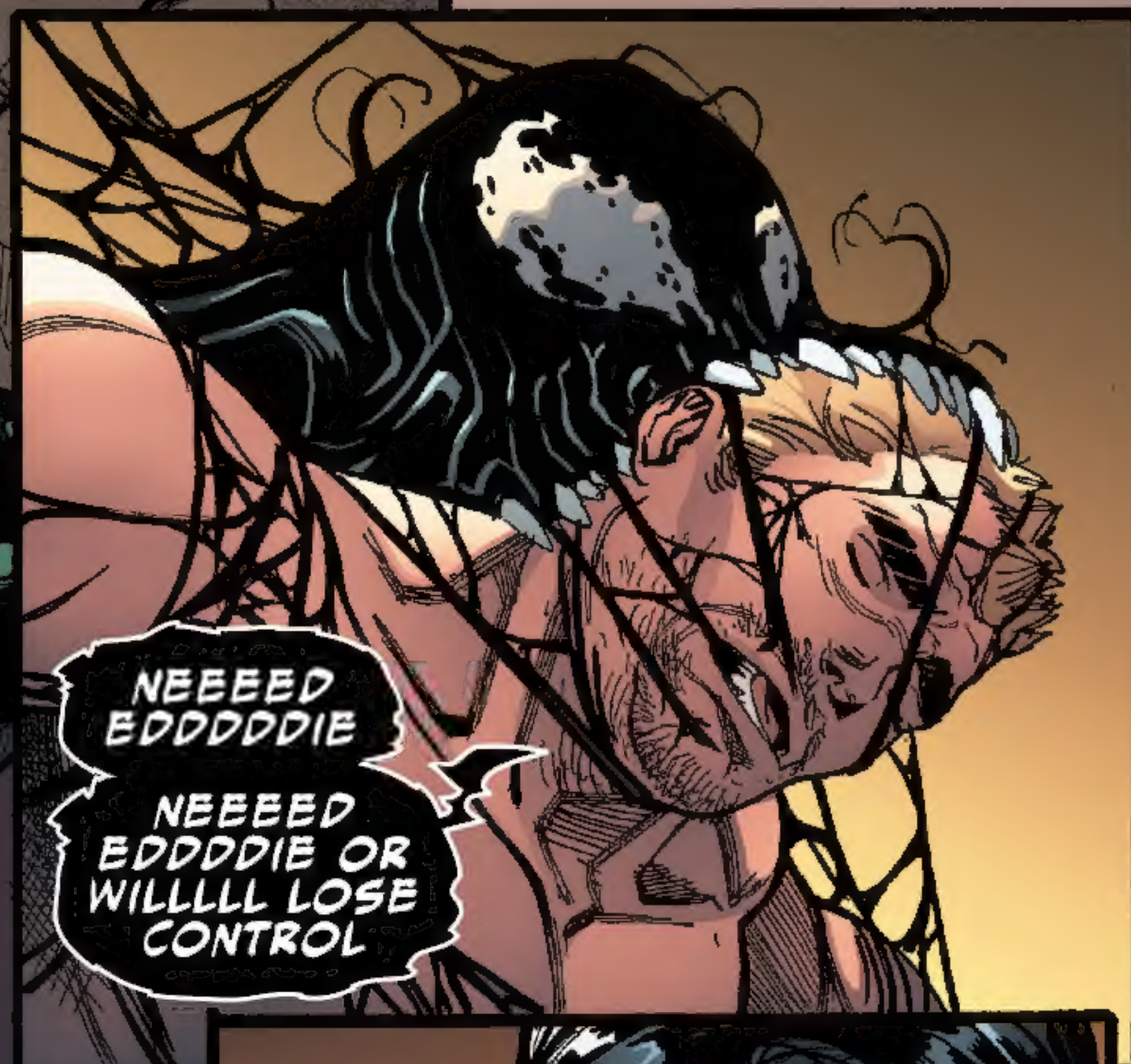
CAN'T GO BACK IN A CAGE!

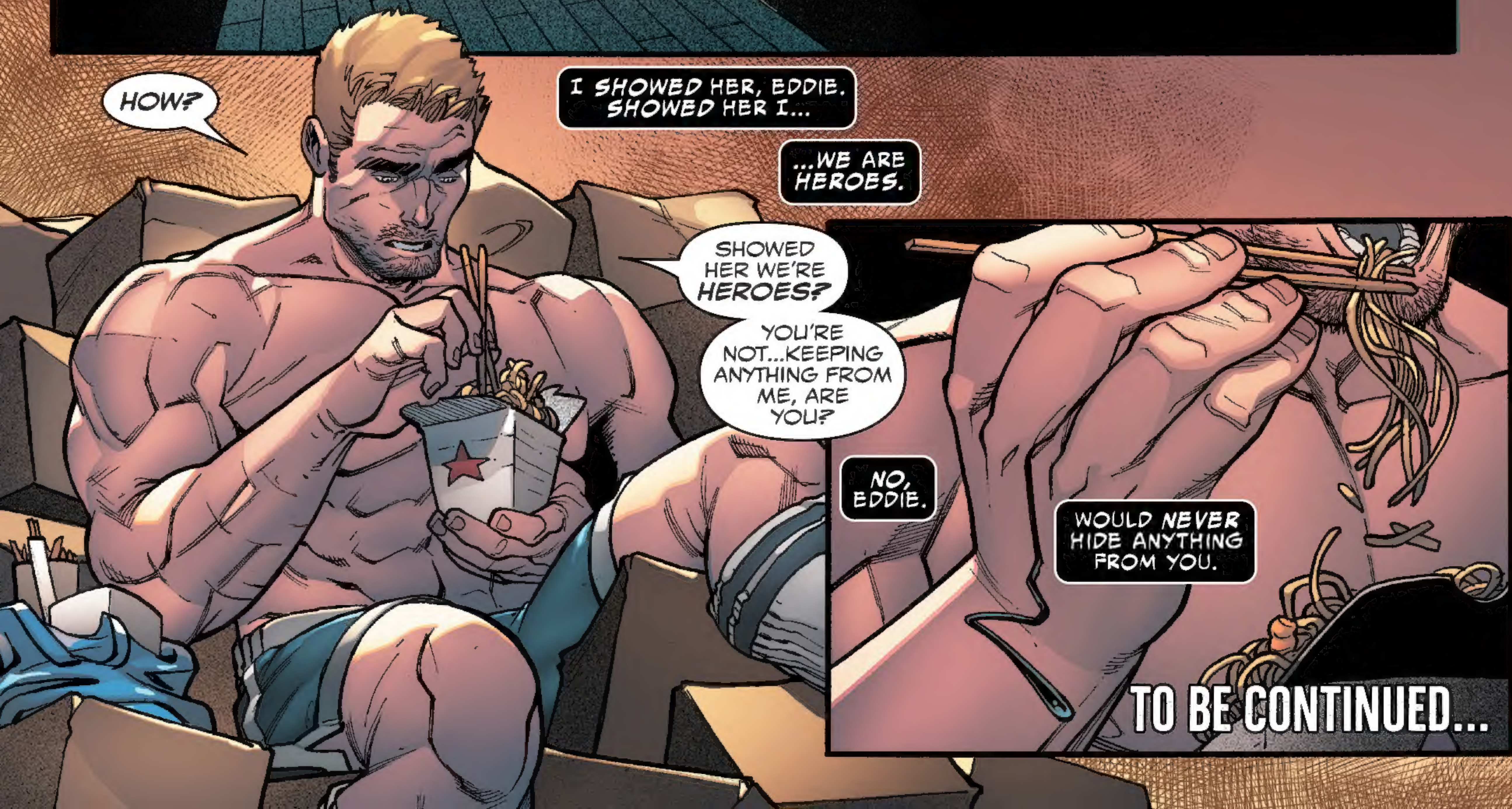
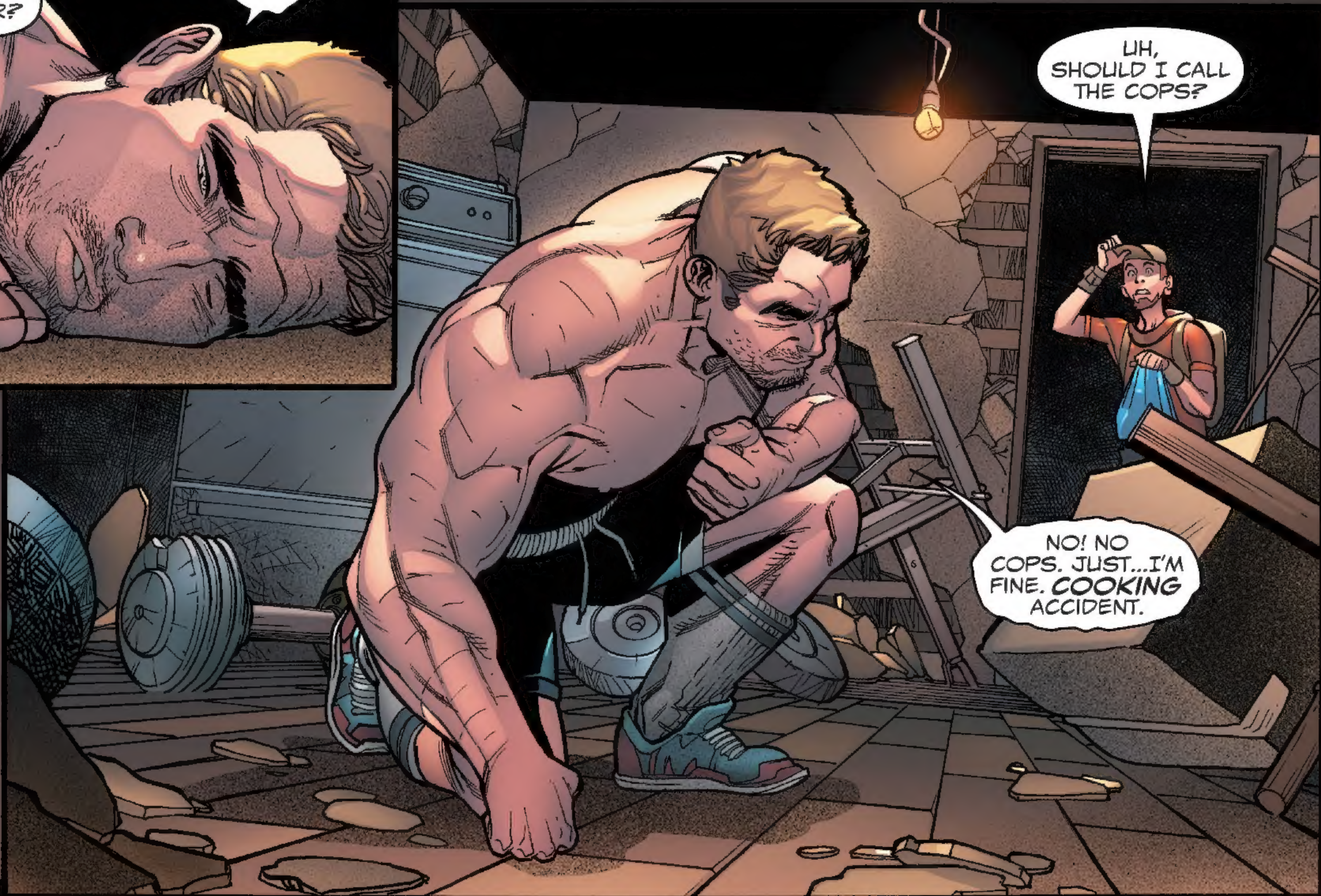
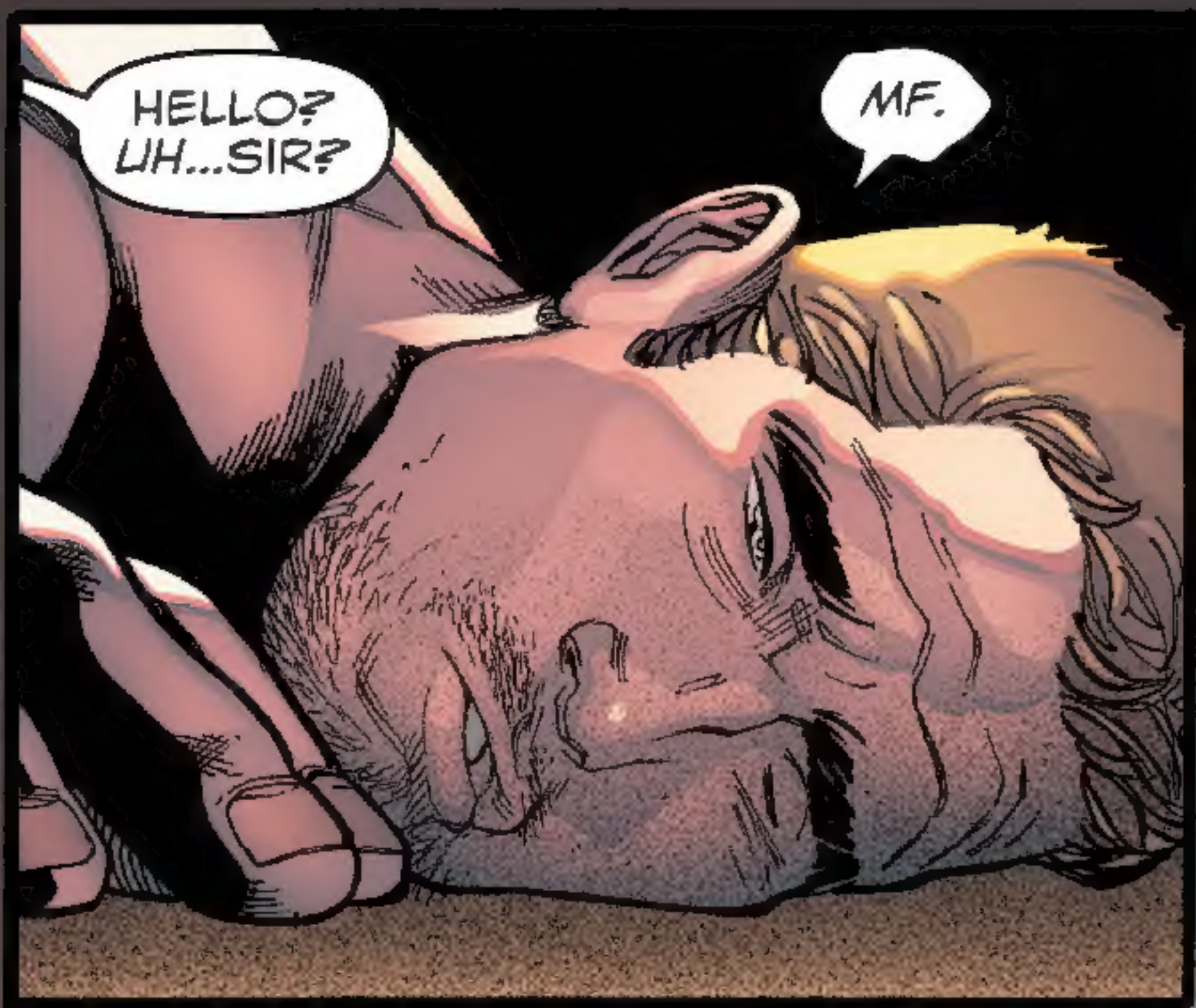
NO! DON'T!

WILL CONVINCE YOU, WILL SHOW YOU!



WILL
SHOW
YOU!







Eddie's Clubhouse

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Hello, Venomaniacs!

WHAT A REVELATION! The Venom symbiote is about to spawn?! What could that mean for Eddie Brock, Spider-Man and even Venom itself?! Only one way to find out — keep reading!

What a busy few weeks it's been here at the House of Ideas! Not only have we been putting out the best comics in the biz, but it's also been the holiday season! So, let's start this letter column (and year!) off right, with well-wishes to you and yours from all of your pals here in the Spidey-Office!

Beyond that, the past few weeks have also been busy for your favorite an' mine...the sinister symbiote...that most wicked of web-slingers...**VENOM!**

This issue is the first since the conclusion of **VENOM INC.** — the first **EVER** crossover between **VENOM** and **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN**! You Spider-Philes sent us a ton of letters, and we here at **VENOM HQ** are beyond excited for you to see what's coming next month: **POISON-X**!

Another first-of-its-kind crossover — this time between **VENOM** and **X-MEN BLUE** — **POISON-X** marks the next chapter of Venom veteran Cullen Bunn's epic saga that began in **VENOMVERSE**! **POISON-X** marks the first deliberate incursion the dangerous, extraterrestrial Poisons have made into the Marvel Universe...and they're on a collision course with the X-Men! Kicking off in the **X-MEN BLUE ANNUAL**, the second chapter will be in **X-MEN BLUE #21**, with the third chapter arriving in **VENOM #162**!

And after **POISON-X** comes the just-announced **VENOMIZED**! The third and final chapter of the **VENOMVERSE** saga, **VENOMIZED** will reunite Cullen and Iban Coello for a story that spins directly out of **POISON-X**. I can't say much beyond that for fear of spoiling some of the shocking events of **POISON-X**, but what I **CAN** say is that the entire first issue of **VENOMIZED** is drawn already and features some of the craziest comic book action this side of planet Klyntar... just in time for Venom's 30th anniversary in May!

We here at Marvel are planning an outrageous birthday bash the likes of which the Marvel Universe has never seen, and with even more surprises planned, you won't want to miss a single pulse-pounding page!

But enough plugging! Let's get to your letters!

Hey VENOM team,

I just wanted to let you guys know that your work with Eddie and his Other has been exemplary!

What with all the controversy that's been going around in the comics world these days, it's good to see a book that cares about plot, character, good art and action! Seeing Mark Bagley doing Venom's slobbery jaws again is just icing on the cake!

Thanks again for all the hard work!

Spencer

And thank **YOU** for reading, Spencer! These are uncertain times, to be sure — and not just in comics — but one thing I can say with certainty is that comic creators working for **ANY** publisher have poured their hearts and souls into their stories, and hearing the passion and energy creators have is one of the best parts of working in the comics biz. I didn't believe it when I was

reading, but they're fans just like you and me!

So while we may not be the **ONLY** book that cares about plot, character, good art and action, it's great to hear that you've given us high marks on all those fronts and — hoo boy — that Mark Bagley art was a **TREAT**, huh?!

We should try to get that guy back for an issue or something...

Hey there,

Recently, I have received my first issue of the **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** (issue #792) in my 12-issue subscription. As soon as I saw the cover, I knew that I had to brace myself for an incredible story...and it was beyond even that!

Ryan Stegman's art is amazing (see what I did there?), and Dan Slott and Mike Costa's story is very intriguing. And with the entire legacy of Venom all thrown together with pretty much **EVERY** host in one place... It's just unbelievable!

As the complete opposite of Spider-Man, I have mass respect for Venom, which is why it made my experience even better. Just wanted to let the crew know that amazing doesn't even begin to describe Spidey, in my opinion!

Sincerely,
Preston H.

Hey, Preston! Thanks so much for reading — it's great to hear that you enjoyed the beginning of **VENOM INC.**, and I hope you felt similarly about the rest of the story!

ITEM: Hey, readers, did you know that "mass" is a regional saying from the Pacific Northwest of the United States that means "extreme" — similar to the way my fellow New Englanders and I use "wicked"? I didn't until I read Preston's letter, so thank you for that, too, Preston!

Hey guys,

I just got home from work and finished reading my pull list, saving **ASM #793** for last. I'm loving this crossover so much.

As someone who was really into Agent Venom, I can't express how happy I am to see Andi return to action.

I'd ramble on more, but I'm tired and am going to sleep, need to be at work a few hours early tomorrow.

Jaremy B.

Thanks for reading, Jaremy! And for clearly saving the best for last! ;^)

The Spidey-Office, Mike and Dan all have special places in our hearts for both Andi and Flash. Getting them back into the super hero game in the **RIGHT** way was a top priority when we were workshopping **VENOM INC.** We didn't want it to feel forced or unearned, and with this kind of letter from a true Anti-Venomaniac like you, it sounds like we might've done okay! Hope you like what we've got in store for the whole gang!

Dear Spider-Office,

VENOM INC. is being put into stores weekly, and it is very exciting!

This event is super cool for lots of reasons. I think that it's super amazing that **VENOM INC.** is finally allowing what we've all been waiting for,

and that is Flash Thompson and Eddie Brock both possessing symbiotes.

I am looking forward to the arrival of Chapter 4 in **ASM #793**. I think there is great potential in the All-New Anti-Venom, and hope to maybe see an ongoing series dedicated to him in the future.

VENOM INC. is only halfway over, and I am just waiting for the next issue!

Gretchen S.

Hey, Gretchen, and thanks for reading! Y'know, I love Flash Thompson as much as the next, and I hadn't even considered giving him his own series! I'm a dummy! We don't have any plans for that immediately, but Flash's going to be playing a big part in **VENOMIZED**, and after that we've got some **AMAZING** plans for him...

Hey,

VENOM INC. is amazing. What you guys are doing here is phenomenal.

Any chance we get a new Anti-Venom series starring Flash Thompson after **INC.** is all said and done?

Oh, and you guys really need to collect Cullen Bunn's run on Venom after he took over for Remender into a similar Ultimate collection! It's impossible to find the Bunn trades (*Devils Pack*, *Toxin with a Vengeance*, *The Land Where Killers Dwell*) anywhere, and if I do find them, they are way overpriced!

Really looking forward to the rest of the **VENOM INC.** storyline and I can't wait to see what happens next!

Thanks From A Huge Fan,
Joey C.

Hey, Joey! Thanks for reading and writing in! Sorry to hear about the trouble with the trades of Cullen's run. I agree that he did some amazing work with the symbiote! On the plus side, **VENOMIZED** is right on the horizon, and that should, hopefully, be a bit easier to find...if it doesn't sell out across the globe, that is!

Dear **VENOM** writers:

Love where the story is going so far!

While I wish we got to see Lee come into his own a bit more as the good ol' tongue-wagging monster we all know and love, it's nice seeing Eddie take the reins again.

(Also, having Venom fight Kraven is a nice nod toward "Kraven's Last Hunt." Nicely done!)

Your Favorite Clone,
Ben

Thanks for reading, Ben, but I'm sad to report that you've earned yourself five demerits for even **MENTIONING** that awful, awful tongue! To make up for it, you'll have to read **POISON-X** and let us know what you think of it! Deal?

All right! That's all the space we've got for this issue, Venomaniacs. Be here in just **TWO WEEKS** for the third installment of **POISON-X**!

Stay sharp!
Devin

@edevinlewis

